

REMARKS

Examiner Hamdan is thanked for the courtesies extended during the Office Interview on November 19, 2003.

Reconsideration of the objection to the Specification and Drawings is hereby requested. The Specification and Drawings have been amended to include a reference to Figure 1 as "Prior Art", as requested by the Examiner.

The Interview Summary is believed to be a complete and proper summary of the substance of the Interview, wherein Claims 1, 14, 18, 24 and 29, and cited references Woodside III (U.S. Patent 5,425,823) and Horth et al. (U.S. Patent 5,970,865) were discussed. As stated in the Interview Summary, "[i]t was agreed that the two references 5,425,823 and 5,970,865 are not combinable for Claims 1 and 14 only...". Thus, the Examiner agreed that Claims 1 and 14 were allowable. The Examiner also stated that "[f]urther search and time [is] needed for the rest of the Claims 18, 24 and 29", indicating that he would not agree to allowability of those claims until a further search was conducted. Therefore, Claims 1 and 14 are in condition for allowance and such is respectfully requested.

Claims 2-13 depend from Claim 1 and Claims 15-17 depend from Claim 14. These claims are allowable for at least the same reason as Claims 1 and 14 and such is respectfully requested.

Regarding Claims 18, 24 and 29, reconsideration of the rejection of Claims 18, 19, 24, 25 and 28-30 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Woodside, III (U.S. Patent 5,425,823) in view of Horth et al. (U.S. Patent 5,970,865) is hereby requested. Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 18, 24 and 29 are allowable for at least the same reason as the Examiner recognized for Claims 1 and 14. Therefore, reconsideration of this rejection is respectfully requested.

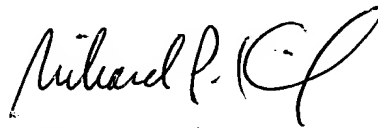
Claims 19-23 depend from Claim 18. Claims 25-28 depend from Claim 24. Claims 30-33 depend from Claim 29. Each of these dependent claims is allowable for at least the same reason as Claims 18, 24 and 29 and such is respectfully requested.

In view of all of the above, Claims 1-33 are now in condition for allowance, and such is hereby requested.

In view of all of the above, the Application is now deemed to be in condition for allowance and such is respectfully requested.

It is respectfully requested that, if necessary to effect a timely response, this paper be considered as a Petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response and that shortages in fees, if any, be charged, or any overpayment in fees credited, to the Account of Barnes & Thornburg, Deposit Account No. 10-0435 (5723-68359).

Respectfully submitted,
BARNES & THORNBURG



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RPK/sld

Attachment:

Amendment to the Specification
Amendment to the Drawings
Petition for One-Month Extension of Time